

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 295675 TOSEC 120112
ORIGIN NEA-10

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T STATE 295675 TOSEC 120112

STADIS/////////
PASS ATHERTON FROM NEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PGOV, MOPS, JO, LE, US

SUBJECT: YOUR BEIRUT AND AMMAN STOPS

1. AS MAY BE MADE CLEAR IN SEPTELS TO SECRETARY NOW BEING
CLEARED IN OTHER OFFICES, AND SUPPLEMENTING INFORMATION WE
GAVE YOU ON EVE YOUR DEPARTURE, PRESIDENT AND OMB HAVE
REACHED SOME TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS RE BUDGET ITEMS FOR
LEBANON AND JORDAN WHICH YOU SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN
TALKS IN AMMAN AND BEIRUT.

2. SUPPLEMENTAL FOR LEBANESE FMS CREDITS FOR FY 1978 IS IN
JEOPARDY. OMB PROPOSES TO RAISE PROPOSED SUM IN FY 1979
TO DOLS 50 MILLION, AND ENCOURAGES US TO TRY TO FIND
SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 295675 TOSEC 120112

UP TO DOLS 25 MILLION IN REPROGRAMMED CREDITS FROM FY 1978.
THIS WILL BE HARD TO DO, AND SEPTTEL TO SECRETARY WILL GIVE
HIM SOME OPTIONS TO CONSIDER. IN ANY EVENT, TOTAL
DOLS 100 MILLION OVER THREE YEARS IS NOT GUARANTEED AT
THIS MOMENT. RE JORDAN, THE DOLS 50 MILLION SPECIAL LINE
ITEM FOR THE MAQARIN DAM IS IN JEOPARDY AND WE ARE TRYING
TO RESTORE IT THROUGH APPEALS. BASIC OMB-PRESIDENTIAL

DECISION WAS TO BRING SSA PROGRAM TO DOLS 103 MILLION,
COMPARED TO THE DOLS 166.5 MILLION, INCLUDING MAQARIN,
DEPARTMENT HAD PROPOSED. MAQARIN ASIDE, WE CAN PROBABLY
FIT BASIC NEEDS WITHIN DOLS 103 MILLION WITH, AS PICKERING

HAS SUGGESTED, DOLS 31.5 MILLION IN BUDGET SUPPORT,
DOLS 31.5 MILLION IN CORE PROJECTS, AND DOLS 40 MILLION
FOR POTASH. WE FEEL STRONGLY, HOWEVER, THAT WE SHOULD
STAY WITH THE MAQARIN LINE ITEM, DESPITE THE FACT THAT
IT DISTORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF "STRAIGHT-LINING" AND
"PROPORTIONALITY" FOR CONFRONTATION STATES WHICH
PRESIDENT AND OMB BELIEVE SHOULD BE THE GUIDE.

3. FIGURES ON PAGE 6 OF JORDAN BILATERAL PAPER SHOULD
BE AMENDED TO REFLECT CURRENT STATUS AS FOLLOWS:

FMS CREDITS DOLS 75 MILLION
MAP DOLS 45 MILLION
IMET DOLS 2 MILLION
SSA DOLS 103 MILLION
LINE ITEM--MAQARIN ... DOLS 50 MILLION (TO BE RESTORED,
--- WE HOPE)
PL-480 DOLS 7.7 MILLION CHRISTOPHER

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